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Making sense of the world

THE WEEK

Junior

THE BEST
MAGAZINE FOR
CURIOUS
KIDS

National Honor

The Presidential Medal of Freedom is awarded to soccer star **Megan Rapinoe** and 16 other distinguished Americans p2

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Presidential Medal of Freedom is the nation's highest civilian honor.
- President John F. Kennedy established the award in 1963.
- Fewer than 700 people have received it.





This week's big news

DOUBLE HONOR

Former US Secretary of State Colin Powell received the Presidential Medal of Freedom twice, in 1991 and 1993.



Simone Biles receives the medal from President Joe Biden.

Math prizes presented



Maryna Viazovska

On July 5, four mathematicians were awarded the Fields Medal, which has been given out every four years since 1936 to top math scholars under the age of 40. The winners included Maryna Viazovska, age 37. She is from Ukraine and only the second woman to receive the medal. The awards were given out in Helsinki, Finland.

Presidential medals awarded

President Joe Biden awarded a prestigious honor called the Presidential Medal of Freedom to 17 people on July 7. Recipients included athletes, educators, leaders in technology and business, elected officials, and civil rights champions.

What is the medal?

The medal is the nation's highest civilian (non-military) honor, given to people who have made important contributions to American society, culture, and security or to world peace. In 1945, President Harry S. Truman created the Medal of Freedom to honor important service by civilians during World War Two (1939–1945). In 1963, President John F. Kennedy added the word "Presidential" and broadened it to include cultural achievements. In announcing this year's recipients, a White House statement said, "These 17 Americans demonstrate the power of possibilities and embody the soul of the nation—hard work, perseverance, and faith."

Who received the medal this year?

The honorees included Simone Biles, age 25, who is the youngest person ever to receive the award. Biles has won a combined 32 Olympic

and World Championship medals and is the most accomplished gymnast in US history. Another Olympic medalist and world champion, soccer star Megan Rapinoe, also received the award. Biden honored two US Senators: John McCain of Arizona, who died in 2018, and Alan Simpson of Wyoming (who retired in 1996). General Wilma Vaught, one of the most decorated women in US military history, received the medal, as did Fred Gray, one of the first Black members of the Alabama state government and an attorney who fought for civil rights. Biden also honored Julieta García, the first Mexican American woman to serve as a college president, and Steve Jobs, the co-founder of Apple, who died in 2011.



President John F. Kennedy

How were the awards given?

The winners, who learned they would receive the medal in a personal phone call from Biden, were invited to a ceremony at the White House. In keeping with tradition, the President introduced each person and then fastened the medal around their neck. For those receiving the award posthumously (after they died)—including McCain and Jobs—Biden presented the medal to family members.

Who are some past winners?

The medal has been awarded to many prominent people over the years, including photographer and environmentalist Ansel Adams in 1980, civil rights hero Rosa Parks in 1996, baseball legend Hank Aaron in 2002, astronaut Sally Ride in 2013, and singer Bruce Springsteen in 2016. In a surprise ceremony in 2017, Biden himself was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama. At the time, Biden had served nearly eight years as Obama's Vice President and more than 30 years in the Senate.

How did people react?

"I'm very proud to be here," said Cindy McCain, who accepted the award on behalf of her husband, John McCain. "John was a leader because he believed in the value of human dignity. He believed in the value of the United States of America." Megan Rapinoe, who has advocated for equal pay for women as well as for LGBTQ causes, said she was truly honored. Rapinoe added that she feels "as inspired and motivated as ever to continue this long history of fighting for the freedoms of all people." For a full list of winners and their accomplishments, see the White House summary at tinyurl.com/TWJUS-MedalOffFreedom.



Muslims make holy journey

On July 7, one million Muslims from around the world gathered in Mecca, a city in Saudi Arabia, to begin an annual pilgrimage of five to six days known as hajj. Muslims are followers of the religion of Islam. This was the largest hajj since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Muslims consider Mecca the birthplace of the prophet Muhammad, the founder of Islam. Every Muslim who can make the journey is expected to complete hajj once in their lifetime. Men wear plain white clothes, while women wear plain clothes and hijab (a type of head covering). Attendees perform rituals, including praying and walking seven times around the Kaaba, a cube-shaped shrine in the middle of the city's Grand Mosque (place of worship).

Before Covid-19, more than 2 million people attended hajj every year. In 2020, about 1,000 Muslims were permitted to attend. In 2021, about 60,000 were allowed. Those attending this year are required to have been vaccinated against Covid-19 and be under age 65.



Praying at hajj in Saudi Arabia



UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson

DID YOU KNOW?
The Conservative Party was founded in the UK in 1834 by Sir Robert Peel. It is one of the oldest political parties in the world.

Boris Johnson to step down

Boris Johnson, who has served as the UK's prime minister (similar to the President) since 2019, announced on July 7 that he will step down. The news follows recent scandals and the resignations of key members of Johnson's government.

Johnson, age 58, leads the Conservative Party. In the UK, voters elect members of Parliament (similar to Congress) in a general election, and the leader of the party that wins the most seats becomes prime minister.

In recent months, Johnson was accused of ignoring the illegal or inappropriate behavior of members of his government. He was also found to have disobeyed Covid-19 lockdown rules between May 2020 and April 2021. During that time, Johnson hosted and attended parties at

Number 10 Downing Street (the prime minister's home and office), for which he later apologized.

In June, after a public outcry, the Conservative Party held a vote on whether Johnson should stay in power. He won the vote. On July 5, however, calls for him to step down reached new levels when 59 members of his government resigned in protest of his leadership. "It is clearly now the will of the Parliamentary Conservative Party that there should be a new leader of that party and therefore a new prime minister," Johnson said in announcing his resignation.

Some critics feel Johnson should be removed immediately. But he said he plans to remain in the job until a replacement is selected, which is expected to happen in September.



IT'S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

FROZEN FUN

It's game on for Cold Stone Creamery, which is celebrating summer with new ice cream flavors it created with Nintendo. The sweet treats include Superstar Sprinkle Blast for Mario Party Superstars and Island Getaway for Animal Crossing.



Two of the new flavors



Dominique Claseman at the memorial

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The town of Olivia, Minnesota, has a new veterans memorial, thanks to a local teen's Eagle Scout project. Dominique Claseman, age 17, raised more than \$77,000 to build the tribute, which was unveiled on Memorial Day. "He's got a good heart," said a visitor.

A DUCK-SITTING DOG

Fred, a 15-year-old Labrador retriever who lives at Mountfitchet Castle in the UK, has stepped in to care for a group of orphaned ducklings. The protective pooch cuddles with the baby ducks and carries them on his back. This isn't Fred's first time fostering ducklings—he did it in 2018 and 2019 as well. "Well done, Fred," said a Facebook post.



Fred and the ducklings



National news

DID YOU KNOW?

On December 14, 1819, Alabama became the 22nd state to join the union.



US athletes march in the opening ceremony of the World Games.

Mascots of World Games

Vulcan, the Roman god of fire, and Vesta, the Roman goddess of the hearth and home, are the mascots for this year's World Games. They were inspired by the world's largest cast-iron statue, which has stood in Birmingham, Alabama, since 1936. It depicts Vulcan and was made by artist Giuseppe Moretti.



The Vulcan statue

World Games begin in Alabama

On July 7, the 11th edition of the World Games opened in Birmingham, Alabama. The event features a series of Olympic-style competitions showcasing the abilities of about 3,600 athletes from more than 100 countries.

What are the World Games?

Created to highlight new and fast-growing sports, the World Games is organized with the support of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). It is held every four years during the summer that follows the Summer Olympic Games. Athletes compete in 223 medal events across 34 sports. As with the Olympics, a different host city is chosen for each of the Games. This is the second time a US city has hosted. Santa Clara, California, hosted the first World Games in 1981.

What are some of the sports?

Some of the sports are variations of Olympic sports. Gymnasts can compete in acrobatics and trampoline, for example, and speed skaters can race wearing in-line skates (skates on wheels). Some of the more unusual sports include orienteering (running while navigating by map and compass) and DanceSport (competitive dancing). New events for 2022 include drone racing, kickboxing, and mixed-gender tug of war. Several events that began at the World Games, such as beach volleyball, are now part of the Summer Olympics.

What have been some highlights?

Three days into the World Games, athletes from Ukraine had won more medals (17) than

any other country. Their performances were inspiring to many people watching because Russia invaded Ukraine in February and the war continues. In a surprising outcome, the Egyptian sumo wrestler Abdelrahman Elsefy won a gold medal, then was disqualified for celebrating, then was granted a rematch and won again. Randall Woodfin, the mayor of Birmingham, said the city was proud to host the event.

What will happen next?

The next World Games, in August 2025, will take place in Chengdu, China. The number of participating athletes will increase to more than 4,000, and the process of deciding which sports to include will begin after the closing ceremony in Birmingham on July 17.



WORD OF THE WEEK

MEDAL

A medal can look very much like a large coin, and that is exactly how the word began, with the Latin *medalia*, which meant "half a denarius," an ancient Roman silver coin. The word traveled through Italian and French before arriving in English as "medal" in the 16th century.

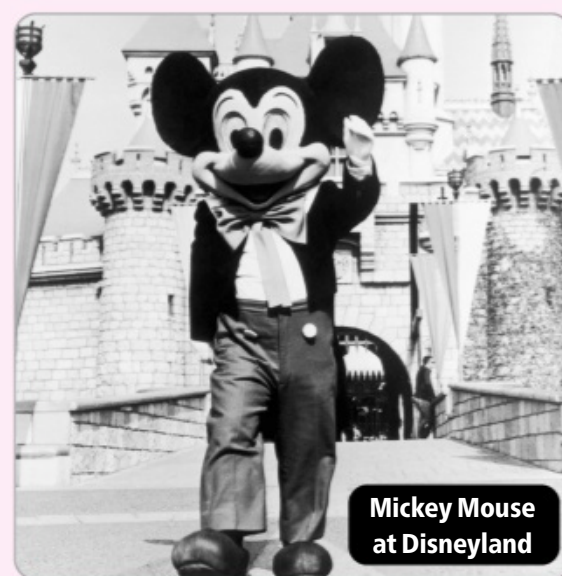


THE WEEK IN HISTORY

July 17, 1955

Disneyland opens in California

On July 17, 1955, Disneyland opened in Anaheim, California. The theme park was designed and built under the direction of animator Walt Disney, who told visitors, "Disneyland is your land." Within a few weeks, more than one million people had visited the park. Disneyland now attracts about 18 million guests a year. In 1971, Disney World, a larger version of the park, opened in Orlando, Florida.



Mickey Mouse at Disneyland



**Minions:
The Rise of Gru**

Summer movie record broken

Minions: The Rise of Gru, the fifth film in the *Despicable Me* franchise, broke a record for a July 4th holiday weekend opening with \$125.2 million in box office sales. The previous record of \$115.9 million was set in 2011 by *Transformers: Dark of the Moon*. The *Despicable Me* franchise has made the most money of any animated movie franchise in history, taking in \$4 billion worldwide.



Mike Grier

Historic hire for hockey team

Mike Grier has been named the new general manager (GM) of the San Jose Sharks, a National Hockey League (NHL) team based in California. He is the first Black person to become the GM of an NHL team. Prior to leading the Sharks, Grier was a pro hockey player and coach. He said he was "extremely proud and grateful" for the opportunity.



A Bracco Italiano

Dog club recognizes new breed

The Bracco Italiano is the 200th breed to be recognized by the American Kennel Club (AKC), the world's largest purebred dog registry. This breed can now compete in AKC events, such as the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show. A type of pointer, the dogs can be white, white and orange, or white and chestnut and can weigh 55 to 90 pounds.



**A view of Los Alamos
County in New Mexico**

WOW!
Los Alamos, New Mexico, has a 58-mile network of trails that link the community's hills and canyons together.

Nation's healthiest communities ranked

The healthiest communities in the US were announced on June 22 by *US News & World Report*. The communities that topped the list this year were Los Alamos County in New Mexico, Falls Church County in Virginia, and Douglas County in Colorado.

US News has conducted an annual study of the health of communities for the past five years. It looked at about 3,000 communities in the US, scoring them on 89 measures across 10 categories, such as the health of the population, participation in education, and the cost of housing. This year it used data on natural disasters, such as wildfires and floods, to analyze risks to different populations by race and ethnicity.

This was the third year in a row that Los Alamos was ranked first, in part because its residents are well educated, have good access to health care, and earn high incomes. Residents are able to hike at nearby mountains and canyons,

and a large national laboratory located there provides the community with an appreciation for scientific research. Falls Church, which achieved perfect scores on education and the economy, also scored high on community walkability and access to the internet and public transportation. Other counties were lauded for providing access to grocery stores and farmer's markets, clean air and water, and a high number of parks.

One purpose of the rankings is to help local leaders figure out how to make their communities better. "If one community is doing poorly in one area, they can look at a community that's doing well in that area and maybe learn from them," said Gary Emerling of *US News*. CVS Health, a health care company that co-sponsored the report, said it plans

to expand its "health zones" initiative to help more US cities improve on health equity in the coming year. To see the full ranking of communities, go to tinyurl.com/TWJUS-HealthiestCommunities.



**Falls Church
County in Virginia**

THE WEEK'S SILLIEST HEADLINE

"Bear perches on Minnesota family's bird feeder" *UPI*





Around the world



A Barnor photo taken in 1966

Arles, France Photo festival opens

The international photography festival Les Rencontres d'Arles has begun in the South of France and will run until September. It features an exhibition about the celebrated Ghanaian photographer James Barnor. The show focuses on 93-year-old Barnor's six-decade career in Ghana and London and includes images that have never been shown. The festival, held once a year, has taken place since 1970.



Seville

Seville, Spain City to name heat waves

Seville, in southwestern Spain, is set to become the first city in the world to name and classify different types of heat waves. They will be ranked by how they affect human health, for the purpose of helping communities plan emergency response measures, such as cooling centers. Heat waves have been linked to climate change (long-term changes in weather patterns, largely due to human activities) and have risen sharply in Spain in recent years.



Protests in the capital

Buenos Aires, Argentina Protesters march over cost of living

Thousands of people marched in Buenos Aires, the capital of Argentina, and other cities across the country on July 9, demanding that the government do more to tackle rising prices and support people in need. Prices for some basic necessities, including fuel, were already high and jumped higher in recent days, making the cost of living much more expensive.

Netherlands Farmers protest changes

Farmers are protesting government plans aimed at reducing pollution. New rules will require farmers to use less fertilizer (chemicals that help plants grow) and reduce the number of farm animals they own. Farmers have prevented ports and warehouses from sending their goods to supermarkets, resulting in massive delays.



Farmers blocked roads.



Italy Drought declared

Five regions in northern Italy have declared a state of emergency after experiencing the worst drought (severe lack of rain) in 70 years. The city of Milan has closed its famous water fountains, and the production of power made from water has dropped. Residents have also been told to limit the use of water. The affected regions, which are located around the Po River, will be given more than \$35 million to help residents.



The dried-up Po River

GETTY IMAGES (6); REUTERS; SHUTTERSTOCK (2); COURTESY JAMES BARNOR/GALERIE CLÉMENTINE DE LA FÉRONNIÈRE



Hummus could be hard to find.



Russia Chickpea shortage expected

Chickpea supplies could fall by 20% this year and affect the availability of hummus (a dip made from chickpeas). Russia supplies about 25% of the world's chickpeas (also called garbanzo beans). But sanctions (trade restrictions) on Russia after it invaded Ukraine, combined with poor weather, have led to a global shortage of chickpeas.



The Dalai Lama



India Dalai Lama opens library and museum

The Dalai Lama, the spiritual leader of Tibet, marked his 87th birthday on July 6 by opening the Dalai Lama Library and Museum. Located in his hillside headquarters in India, the center contains historical objects, documents that convey his teachings, and books on his life and the religion of Buddhism. The Dalai Lama has lived in India since 1959 and has traveled the world speaking out for human rights and peace.

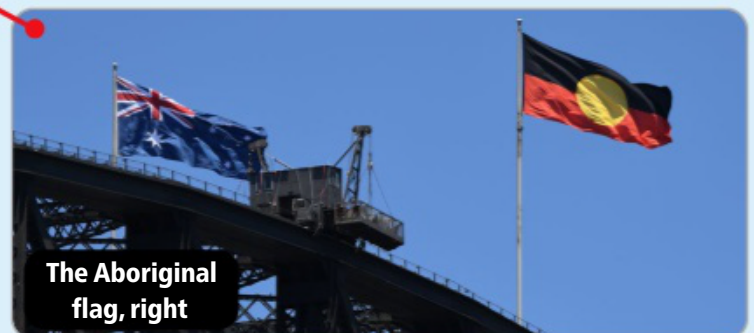


Refills will be unlimited.



Japan Young voters get free noodles

To encourage more young people to take part in Japan's elections, a major Japanese ramen restaurant chain offered free unlimited noodle refills for two weeks. To qualify for the free food, people had to show proof that they had voted. The number of young people who vote in Japan is typically about 40%, and the ramen chain hoped its offer would encourage more of them to vote.



The Aboriginal flag, right



Australia Aboriginal flag to fly on bridge

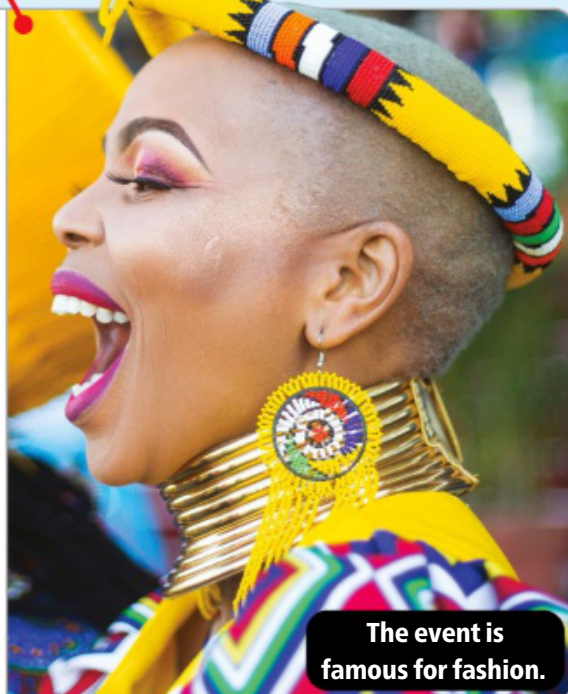
The government of New South Wales (NSW), Australia, announced that the Aboriginal flag will be permanently flown on the Sydney Harbour Bridge. The bridge usually displays the Australian flag and the NSW state flag side by side. After a five-year campaign, the NSW flag will be moved to make way for the Aboriginal flag, which represents the people first known to live in Australia.



Durban, South Africa

Racing event returns

Crowds have returned to Durban July, the biggest horse-racing event in Africa, for the first time since 2019. Spectators were not allowed in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic. Tens of thousands of people flocked to the city both for the competition and for the event's famous fashions. The area was hit by floods earlier this year, so the Durban July's return gave the local economy a much-needed boost.



The event is famous for fashion.



The big debate

Is artificial grass better than a real lawn?

Some people think plastic grass helps the planet, but others say it harms wildlife.

What you need to know

- Fake grass is also known as artificial turf. It's made from different types of plastic and is used in lawns, gardens, and athletic fields.
- Fake grass doesn't require watering like real grass does. In the US, real grass lawns use 3 trillion gallons of water each year.
- Real grass lawns cover 2% of land in the US and provide a natural habitat for animals and insects.
- Artificial turf retains heat, causing air and water temperatures to rise.



TIME TO PLAY

In 1964, the first large play area using fake grass was installed at a school playground in Rhode Island.

In recent years, more people have been choosing fake grass to replace their lawns and cover other outdoor spaces like balconies and patios. It's also a very popular surface for sports practices and games. Fans of artificial turf say it always looks clean and tidy, and athletes can play on it in any weather. It also requires less work than caring for a real lawn, which many people are not willing or able to do. On the other hand, some people say fake lawns are bad for the environment because they're made of plastic and take away natural wildlife habitats. What do you think? Is artificial grass better than a real lawn?

Yes—fake grass makes gardening easy

Anyone who has played soccer or chased their dog across a lawn in winter knows that it can turn into a muddy mess. It can also dry out and turn brown in summer. Fake grass not only looks neater than a muddy or dry lawn, it's also easier to take care of, especially for people who find gardening difficult or boring. Fake grass can be swept and cleaned, while a real lawn needs mowing, weeding, and watering, which isn't always good for the environment. A fake lawn looks fresh and bright and can add a cheerful splash of color to any outdoor space. It's similar to installing a patio or concrete, which people have been doing for years.

No—it's no substitute for the real thing

Lawns bring nature into our lives, so why replace them with fake plastic grass? Birds can't peck through plastic for bugs and worms, and underground creatures won't find food either. Plastic grass heats up more than real grass does, so in warm weather it can be too hot for bare feet (or paws) to stand on. There is currently no easy way to recycle a plastic lawn. It can't be composted like real grass, so it ends up in a landfill. One of the best things about taking care of grass is getting your hands dirty and watching things grow. Even a weedy lawn, which is home to insects, plants, and other wildlife, is better than a plastic one.

YES Three reasons why artificial grass is better than a real lawn

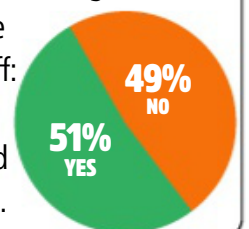
- 1 Unlike real lawns, fake grass doesn't turn into a muddy mess when you play on it on rainy or snowy days.
- 2 It looks neat and is easy to care for, which is ideal for people who have a hard time maintaining a real lawn.
- 3 Fake grass doesn't need mowing or watering, which is better for the planet.

NO Three reasons why artificial grass is not better than a real lawn

- 1 Plastic grass doesn't provide a natural habitat for wildlife like birds and insects.
- 2 Fake lawns are made out of plastic, which doesn't break down like natural grass does. It's also hard to recycle, so it will end up in a landfill.
- 3 Gardening is a great way to enjoy nature. You can't watch plastic grass grow.

LAST WEEK'S POLL

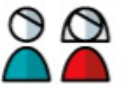
Last week, we asked you if chocolate ice cream is better than vanilla. We've got the scoop on the flavor face-off: 51% of you said yes, and 49% said no.



What do you think?

Now that you've read a bit more about this issue, have a parent or guardian visit theweekjunior.com/polls with you so you can vote in our debate. Vote **YES** if you think fake grass is better than a lawn or **NO** if you don't. We'll publish the results next week.

The goal of the big debate is to present two sides of an issue fairly in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on this page do not reflect those of *The Week Junior*, and the page is not funded by third parties.



Power in writing

Actor Henry Winkler turned his learning challenges into fun books for kids.

Henry Winkler became the face of “cool” in his world-famous role as Arthur “Fonzie” Fonzarelli on the classic TV series *Happy Days*, which aired in the 1970s and 1980s. But to become an actor, writer, and producer, he had to believe in his own power when almost everyone else doubted it.

Winkler has dyslexia, a learning disability that makes it more challenging to read and spell. Kids in school made fun of his struggles, and adults said he was just being lazy. But a teacher named Mr. Rock supported him. “He said, ‘Winkler, when you get out of here, you’re going to be great,’” Winkler told *The Week Junior*. “And I held on to that one sentence.”

Winkler went on to win several awards for acting. But he says that his proudest achievement is writing books for children. “I

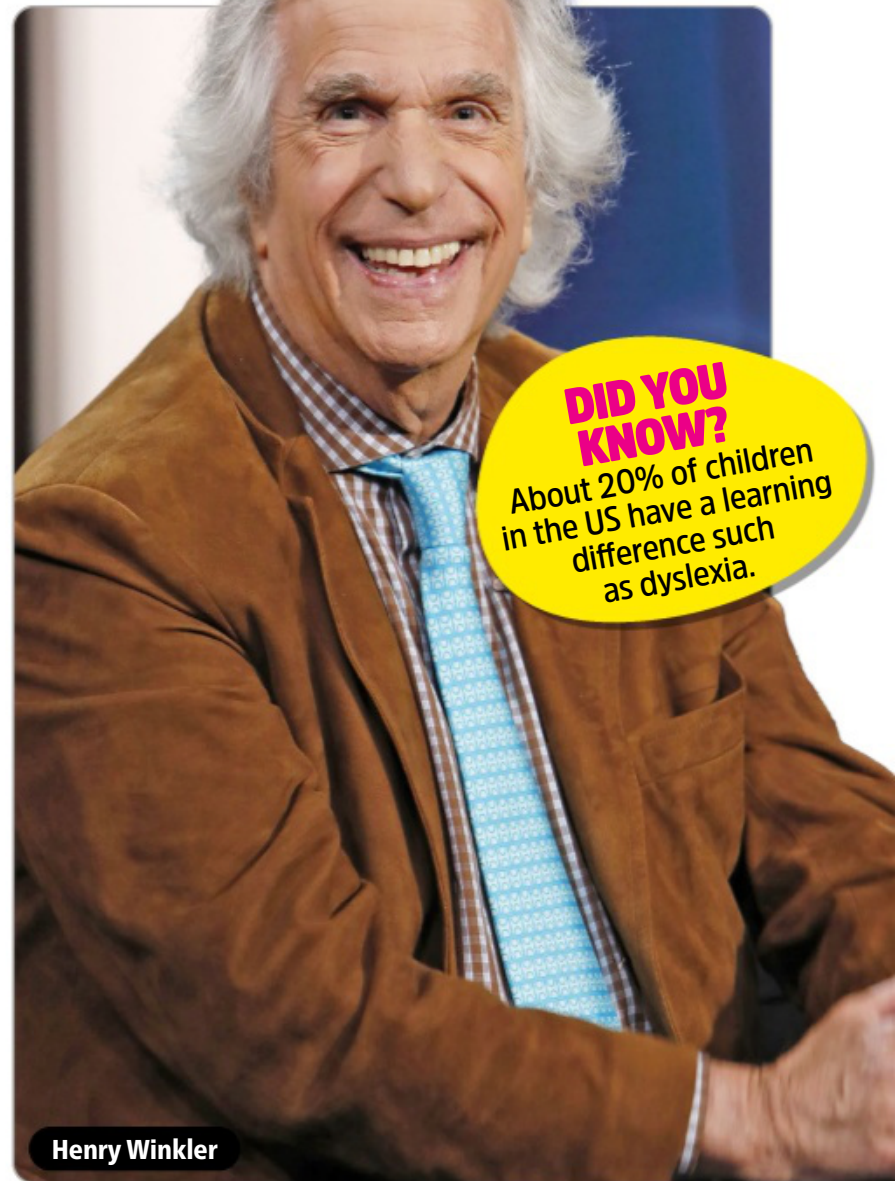
never thought I could do it,” Winkler said. He has co-written four series with author Lin Oliver, including two about a boy named Hank Zipzer who has learning challenges similar to Winkler’s. Hank “is resourceful, he is funny, he fails, and he stands right back up and tries it again,” said Winkler.

When the Hank Zipzer series was adapted into a TV show, which was picked up by HBO Max in May, Winkler played the role of Mr. Rock. But Winkler is also energetic, fun, and determined like Hank. He is still performing at the age of 76, he makes TikToks and goes fly fishing, and his 40th book is due to be released next year.

Winkler believes children are “wonderful just the way they are,” with “unbelievable power” inside them. Winkler never gave up, he said, “and look at me now.”



A book by Winkler



Henry Winkler

DID YOU KNOW?

About 20% of children in the US have a learning difference such as dyslexia.

Major award winner

Actress and singer Jennifer Hudson, 40, reached AEGOT status when she won a Tony Award on June 12 as a co-producer of the Broadway musical *A Strange Loop*. EGOT refers to an entertainer who achieves the rare feat of winning four prestigious awards: an Emmy (TV), a Grammy (music), an Oscar (film), and a Tony (theater). In addition to her Tony, Hudson won an Emmy for her role as executive producer of *Baba Yaga*, Grammys for *The Color Purple* and her debut studio album, and an Oscar for best supporting actress in *Dreamgirls*.



Jennifer Hudson



Roman McConn

Boy who helps dogs

Roman McConn, 10, has been on a mission to find homes for dogs since age 4. Now he will star in a new Disney XD show, *Roman to the Rescue*, about his experience. Roman, who lives in Georgia, was first inspired to help after a trip to the pet store, when he learned that dogs who didn’t get adopted would be sent to a shelter. He started making fun videos of dogs that were up for adoption. His mom posts them on social media, which helps the dogs find homes. “I just love working with dogs,” Roman told *The Washington Post*. “I want to give them a second chance.”

OVERHEARD



“It’s OK not to get it right on the first try.”

Actress Keke Palmer, 28, who voices Izzy in the Disney Pixar film *Lightyear*



Animals and the environment

FEATHERED FRIENDS

Today there are about 33 billion chickens on Earth. They outnumber people by four to one.



A variety of modern chicken breeds

A colorful ancestor

Chickens are the most common domestic animal, having been bred by humans for thousands of years. But which chicken was the very first? A 2020 study of 863 living chickens showed that today's chickens most likely descended primarily from the red junglefowl, a wild, colorful tropical species from Thailand.



A red junglefowl

Chickens were once celebrated

Humans and chickens have lived alongside each other for far less time than historians thought, according to new research from the Universities of Exeter, Oxford, and Cardiff in the UK. What's more, people didn't see the birds as a source of food. Early chickens were respected and possibly worshipped.

For a long time, it was assumed that humans began farming chickens about 10,000 years ago. This was based on bones found with signs of human activity in Asia and Europe. However, it has been found that some of the "chicken" bones actually belonged to pheasants. Others were mixed up with human remains at a later date.



Early chickens were drawn to rice crops.

To settle the question of when the relationship between humans and chickens really began, a new study used carbon dating. A type of carbon in once-living things gradually decays.

By measuring the carbon that the remains still hold, experts can estimate their age. After studying 23 bones from several ancient sites, the research team found that chickens reached Europe around 800 BCE and Africa 200 years later.

These new dates mean the earliest chickens associated with humans are those buried with people in Thailand and China from about 3,500 years ago. There is no sign that these birds were treated as food. Instead

they may have been used as alarms or considered holy or status symbols. When chickens later reached Italy and Britain, they too seem to have been first treated as exotic and worthy of respect.

The research also offers a possible origin for the modern chicken. Chickens appear to have begun living with humans at the same time that people first began to farm rice. The team said the chicken's wild ancestors may have been lured from jungle treetops by the new food source before being tamed to live among humans. "Eating chickens is so common that people think we have never not eaten them," said Naomi Sykes, a researcher from the University of Exeter. "Our evidence shows that our past relationship with chickens was far more complex and that for centuries chickens were celebrated."



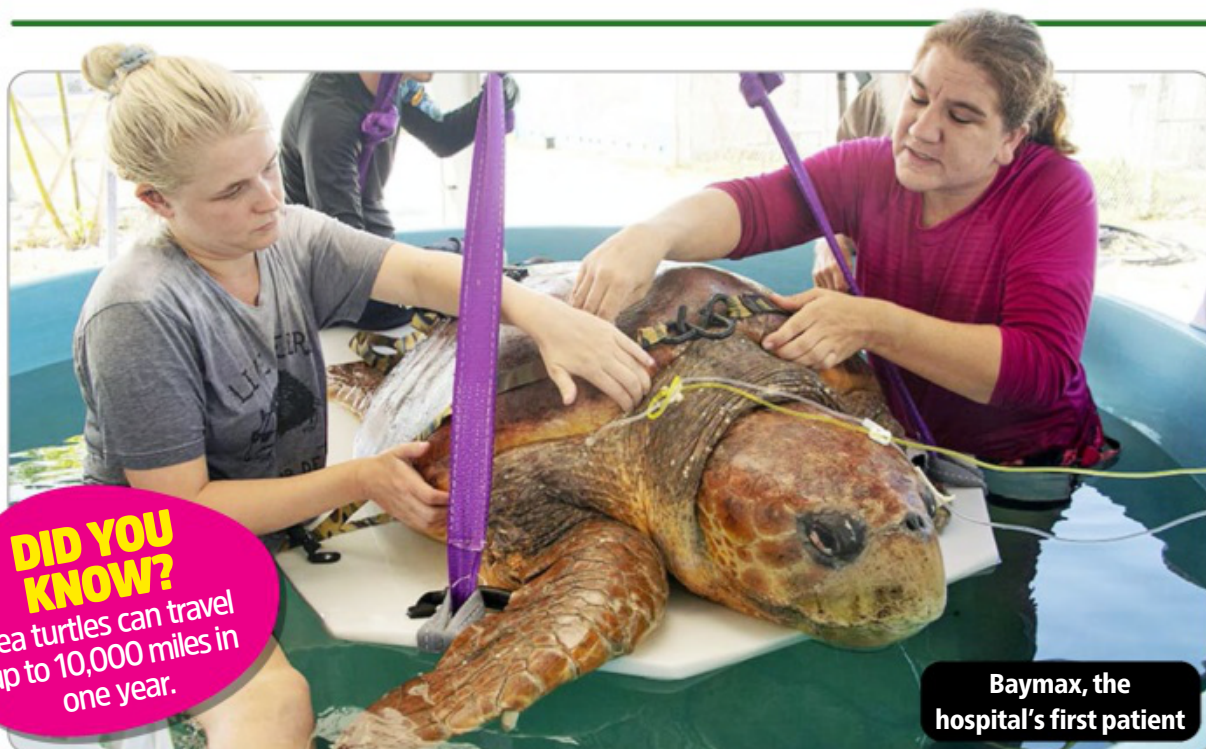
PLACE OF THE WEEK

Sawtooth National Recreation Area, Idaho

Four mountain ranges run through the Sawtooth National Recreation Area in central Idaho, with peaks that rise more than 10,000 feet. The park's 756,000 acres offer opportunities to camp, canoe, or bike on mountain trails. The Salmon River, named for the fish that swim in it to get to the ocean before returning to fresh water as adults, originates in this region. Trees are scarce in the high reaches of the mountains, but forests and grasslands cover much of the rest of the landscape. Wolves, deer, elk, bighorn sheep, Canada lynxes, and peregrine falcons make the park their home.



A deer



DID YOU KNOW?
Sea turtles can travel up to 10,000 miles in one year.

Baymax, the hospital's first patient

New sea turtle hospital opens

The largest zoo in Florida opened a new hospital on July 6. The Zoo Miami Sea Turtle Hospital will accept and treat sick and injured sea turtles.

The hospital's goal is to help sea turtles get well enough to return to their natural habitat or home. The clinic has special tanks where the turtles receive treatment and rehabilitation (help with recovery) before being released back into the wild.

The hospital welcomed its first patient a few weeks early. In May, a 388-pound female loggerhead turtle, which the staff named Baymax, was brought to the zoo with a wounded front left flipper. Doctors believe the injury was caused by a

shark bite. They also discovered that Baymax was pregnant. She received medicine and food, including crab and squid, before having surgery.

After the operation, Baymax was moved to a special pen filled with sand, similar to her natural habitat, to encourage her to lay her eggs. She deposited about 100 eggs, which were taken to a conservation program to be monitored. The zoo said the outlook is good for the hospital's first patient. "She has received her best chance for survival, and it is hoped that she will overcome those challenges and be back in the wild soon," Zoo Miami said on social media.

Animal of the week Red panda

Human activities, such as building roads, are causing red panda habitats in Nepal to shrink. This adds to the risk that the species might go out of existence. There are believed to be about 10,000 left in the wild.

- **LIFE SPAN:** 8 to 10 years in the wild
- **HABITAT:** The red panda lives in trees in bamboo forests in Asia.
- **SIZE:** 20 to 25 inches long and 6 to 14 pounds, with a tail up to 19 inches
- **DIET:** Mostly bamboo leaves, flowers, acorns, and shoots



5 books to read if you love animals

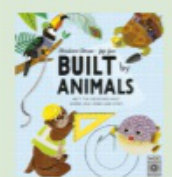
Discover surprising facts about wildlife and household pets.



How to Speak Animal

(Bushel & Peck Books)

Have you ever wondered what your pet is trying to say? Think of this book as a translator for the language of dogs, cats, and other pets. Learn how to tell if your bunny is scared, your dog is relaxed, or your cat wants to give you a kiss. Ages 8–12

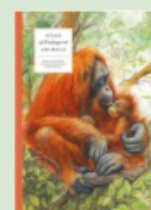


Built by Animals

By Christiane Dorion, illustrated by Yeji Yun

(Wide Eyed Editions)

The topic of this book is how humans can learn from nature, a concept called biomimicry. Ants are underground architects, for example, and builders were inspired by their techniques when developing cities. Ages 8–12



Atlas of Endangered Animals

By Radek Maly, illustrated by Pavel Dvorsky and Pavla Dvorska

(Albatros Media)

This oversize book highlights rare animals, such as orangutans and Komodo dragons, and the help they need to survive. Ages 8 and up

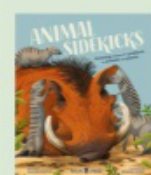


Inside Animals

By Barbara Taylor, illustrated by Margaux Carpentier

(Wide Eyed Editions)

This book is packed with illustrations showing what 20 different animals—from a tiny honeybee to a tall giraffe—look like under their skin. Up to age 9



Animal Sidekicks

By Macken Murphy, illustrated by Dragan Kordic

(Neon Squid)

When different species work together, it's called symbiosis. You can read about dozens of unexpected team-ups, like a tarantula and a frog. A frog helps protect a tarantula's eggs from being eaten by ants. Ages 8–12



From prisoner to

Nelson Mandela dedicated his life to fighting for freedom.

Nelson Mandela, a former president of South Africa, was one of the most important people of the 20th century. He faced many difficulties in his lifetime, including spending 28 years in prison, yet never stopped his struggle for equality and democracy.

A leader is born

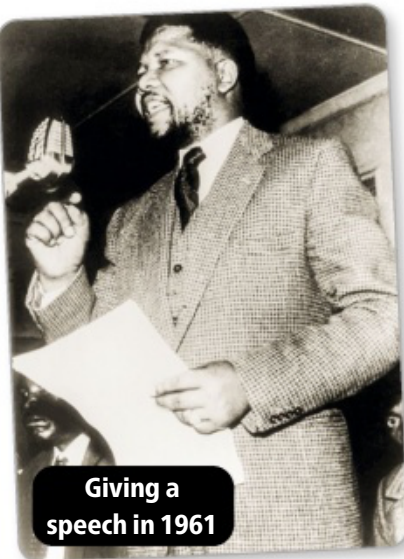
Mandela was born on July 18, 1918, in Mvezo, South Africa. His parents named him Rolihlahla, which means "troublemaker" in the isiXhosa language. He was the first in his family to attend school, and on his first day, his teacher gave him the name Nelson. Calling African students by English names was common at that time. Even though most of the population of South Africa was Black, the country was ruled by white people, and some of them wouldn't pronounce African names. As Mandela grew up, he became aware of the unfair way Black people were treated. White people controlled the nation's property, money, and military. Black people had to

go to separate schools and hospitals. In 1948, this segregation by law was given the name apartheid (pronounced "apartide"), which means separateness.

Fighting injustice

Mandela went to college and became a lawyer. He joined the African National Congress, whose

mission was to improve the lives of Black Africans, and began taking a stronger stand against apartheid. In 1956, he and more than 150 others were arrested for treason (betraying one's country) but were found not guilty. In 1962, Mandela was arrested again, on charges of leaving the country without a permit and urging workers to strike (stop working as a form of protest). At his trial in 1964, he said, "I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities.... It is an ideal for which I am prepared to die." He was found guilty and sent to prison.



Giving a speech in 1961



BEST SELLER
Nelson Mandela's 1994 autobiography, *Long Walk to Freedom*, has sold more than 15 million copies around the world.

SECRET IDENTITIES
During his fight for social justice, Mandela disguised himself as a chauffeur, a gardener, and a cook so police officers wouldn't recognize him.

Nelson Mandela campaigns for president of South Africa in 1994.

Uniting against apartheid

While Nelson Mandela was in prison, people around the world rallied to support him. Their actions increased global awareness of apartheid and put pressure on South Africa to end it.



Demonstrators in 1986 in New York City

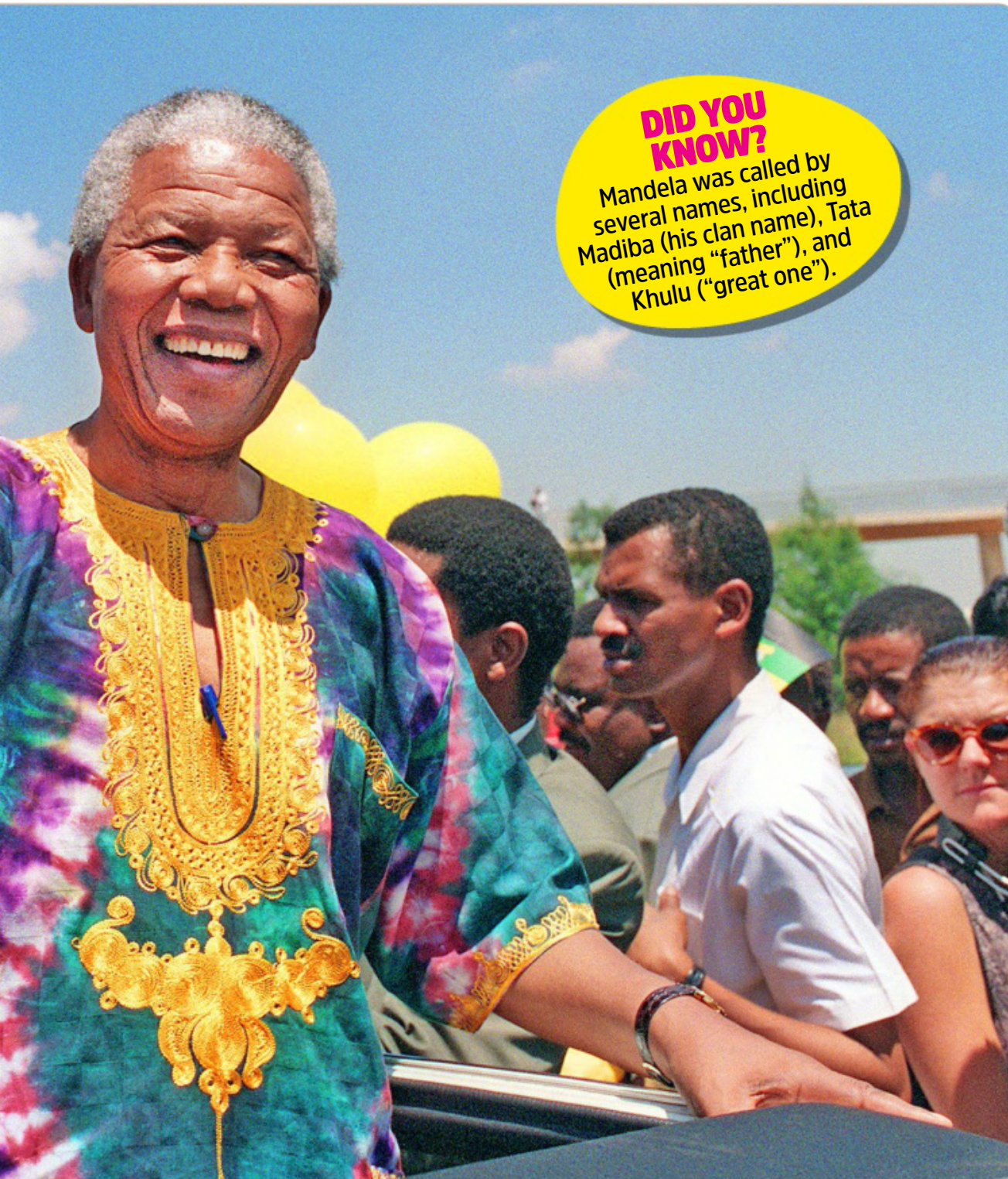
Protests

One of the strongest anti-apartheid movements took place in the US in the 1980s. Marches took place in cities and on college campuses across the country. These inspired other nations to follow with their own demonstrations.





president



DID YOU KNOW?

Mandela was called by several names, including Madiba (his clan name), Tata (meaning "father"), and Khulu ("great one").



Nelson Mandela and F.W. de Klerk receive the Nobel Peace Prize.

March to freedom

In prison, Mandela continued to be a powerful figure in the anti-apartheid movement. The president of South Africa, P.W. Botha, offered him freedom several times if he would ease his fight against apartheid. Mandela always refused. In 1989, a new president of South Africa was chosen. F.W. de Klerk was against apartheid and ordered Mandela released from prison. On the day he was set free, February 11, 1990, Mandela said, "Our struggle has reached a decisive moment... Our march to freedom is irreversible. We must not allow fear to stand in our way." In 1993, Mandela and de Klerk were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for their work to end apartheid "and for laying the foundations for a new democratic South Africa."



Supporters of Nelson Mandela

Historic moments

In 1994, the first election in which Black people were allowed to vote, Mandela was elected president of South Africa. In 1995, South Africa won the Rugby World Cup and Mandela presented the trophy to the team's white captain. The mostly white crowd erupted in cheers of "Nelson, Nelson, Nelson!" for their president—something that not many years before would have been unimaginable. Mandela retired from politics in 1999 but remained a global advocate for peace and social justice until his death in 2013 at age 95. Nelson Mandela International Day, established by the United Nations to inspire people to make a difference in their communities, is held every July 18. This year's theme is "Do what you can, with what you have, wherever you are."



Concerts

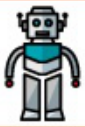
Even amid widespread protests, many people still didn't know who Nelson Mandela was. That changed when a concert for his 70th birthday was held in 1988 at Wembley Stadium in the UK. More than 600 million people watched on TV.

Youssou N'Dour and Jackson Browne perform.

**SANCTION
SOUTH
AFRICA
NOW!**

Sanctions

Campaigns in the 1980s called for nations to issue sanctions (trade restrictions) against South Africa. Air travel to and from the country was banned, as were coal, iron, sugar, and other imported products from South Africa.



WOW!
A Cuvier's beaked whale swam to 9,816 feet below sea level—the deepest recorded dive by a marine mammal.

A whale shark

Sea animals help study deep ocean life

The mysteries of the deep ocean are being revealed, bit by bit, with the help of some unconventional research assistants: large sea animals. Scientists are attaching high-tech tags and sensors to the fins, flippers, and tails of whale sharks, seals, tuna, swordfish, rays, and other creatures. The animals are gathering useful data.

It's difficult for researchers to study waters deeper than about 1,600 feet below the surface, in the mesopelagic, or twilight, zone. (This zone ranges from about 650 to 3,300 feet below the surface.) The water pressure is so intense there that it isn't safe for people, and sunlight barely reaches it. Deeper than that, in the bathypelagic, or midnight, zone (about 3,300 to 13,100 feet down), there is no sunlight at all.

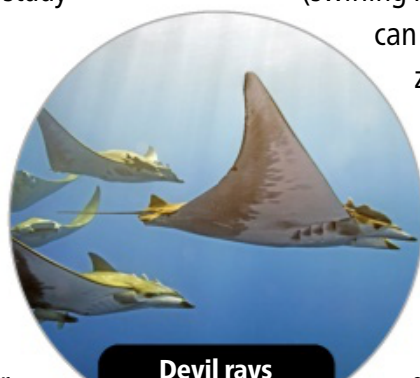
Scientists have known for many years that some large marine animals dive to great depths, most likely in search of food. They began attaching tracking devices to the animals that told them where—and how far below the surface—the creatures traveled. Today, trackers are so advanced that they record sound, video, water temperature, water pressure, and light levels. Trackers have

recorded the sounds of pilot whales clicking and buzzing as they hunt. Cameras and lights attached to a seal's head and jaw have been activated when it strikes at its prey, capturing attacks on squid, lanternfish, and other animals as far as 3,000 feet below the surface. Scientists have learned that blue and great white sharks visit warm eddies (swirling masses of water) where they

can find prey from the mesopelagic zone. They believe that elephant seals hide from predators in the dark of the deep sea, while Atlantic bluefin tuna cool off in the colder waters.

Scientists also learned that some animals change their dives, at times swimming straight down and back up, and other times descending slowly at an angle. "If the same individual does different types of dives at different times, then that's good evidence they are for different purposes," said Simon Thorrold, a researcher at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts.

Researchers hope that tracker technology will continue to advance so they can learn more about the role of deep diving in the lives of sea animals. "There's so much we don't know," said Thorrold.



Devil rays swimming off the coast of Portugal

Tagging endangered whales

A drone tags sei whales.



The US Bureau of Ocean Energy Management and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration announced on June 8 that they had successfully tagged 14 sei whales off the coast of Massachusetts. The sei whale is one of the most endangered large whales in the North Atlantic Ocean, and very little is known about the species.

The researchers used drones to attach electronic tags that will monitor the whales' behavior and their response to sounds. It was the first time a drone had been used to tag an endangered species in the US. Scientists hope to use the data to help protect the species from the impact of wind energy projects that affect their habitats.



DOWNY DINOS

Scientists think baby *Tyrannosaurus rexes* were about the size of a turkey and had soft feathers.



An artist's rendering of a pterosaur

Flying reptiles had bright feathers

A recent study revealed that large flying reptiles that lived during the age of the dinosaurs may have had brightly colored feathers. Pterosaurs were the world's first flying vertebrates (animals with a backbone) and lived between 230 million and 66 million years ago. The finding could also settle a long-standing debate among scientists about whether pterosaurs had feathers at all.

The discovery was made by an international team of scientists looking at the fossil (trace of an ancient plant or animal preserved in rock) of a pterosaur that lived in Brazil 115 million years ago. Researchers spotted feathers on the animal's head. "We didn't expect to see this at all," said Aude Cincotta of University College Cork, in Ireland, lead author of the study. The research team found two different types of feathers. Some were short, similar to hair, while others were fluffier and branched out, like a bird's.



A feather in the fossil

Looking at the feathers through a powerful microscope, Cincotta and her team found preserved microscopic structures, called melanosomes. These hold a pigment called melanin. A pigment is a chemical that gives something its color. "In birds today, feather color is strongly linked to melanosome shape," said Maria McNamara, a study co-author.

Cincotta and McNamara found several different melanosome shapes inside each of the feathers, which indicates that they weren't all the same

color. "Since the pterosaur feather types had different melanosome shapes, these animals must have [been able] to control the colors of their feathers," said McNamara. The researchers think pterosaurs may have used their multicolored feathers to communicate with other members of their own species—for example, to show off to mates or scare away rivals.



5 books about the wonders of science

These picks answer questions about Earth, the human body, and more.



The How and Wow of the Human Body

By Mindy Thomas and Guy Raz, illustrated by Jack Teagle (Clarion Books)

From the creators of the Wow in the World podcast, this book is filled with quizzes, jokes, and comics about the human body. Ages 8–12



Black Women in Science

By Kimberly Brown Pellum, Ph.D. (Rockridge Press)

This collection includes biographies of 15 Black women who have been trailblazers in science. You'll read about a doctor who helped restore people's vision and an engineer who helped create navigation systems. Ages 9–12



Brains On! Presents: Road Trip Earth

By Molly Bloom, Marc Sanchez, and Sanden Totten (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers)

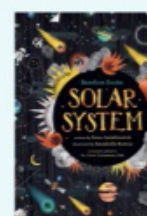
The hosts of the Brains On! podcast take readers on a journey to the Earth's core, across bodies of water, and into space. Ages 8–12



Ask a Scientist

By Robert Winston (DK Children)

A scientist answers 100 questions about Earth, space, and the human body. Drawings and photos will help you discover how rocks turn into lava, why stars twinkle, and more. Ages 6–10



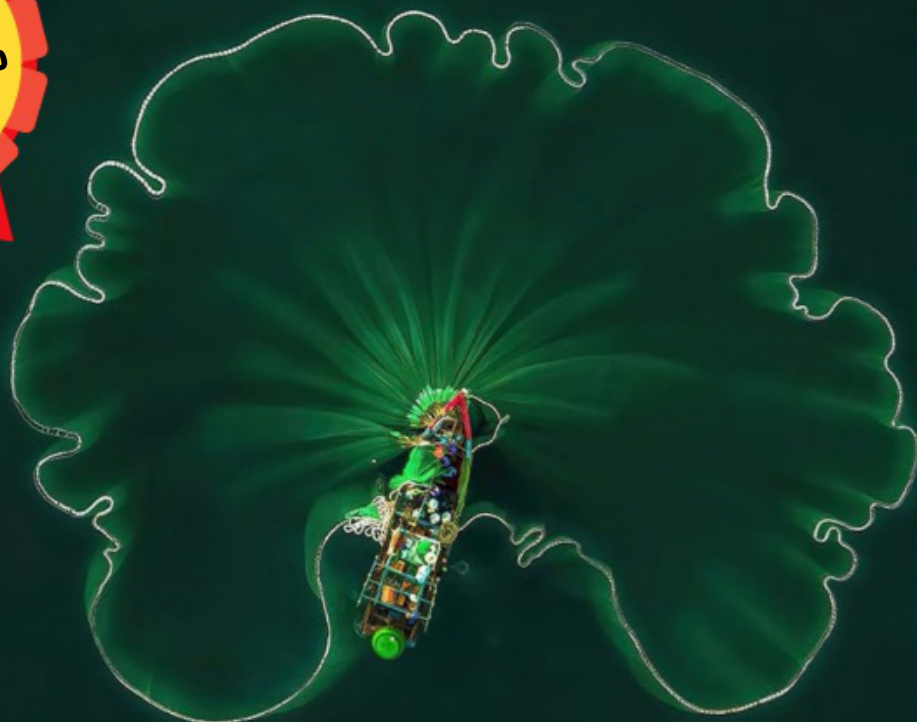
Barefoot Books Solar System

By Anne Jankéliowitch, illustrated by Annabelle Buxton (Barefoot Books)

A map of the solar system that glows in the dark makes this a fun book to read before bed. Find fun facts about solid and gas planets, astronauts, and space travel. Ages 8 and up



Photos of the week



Searching for shrimp

Fishermen cast a wide net in this photo by Cao Nguyen Vu of Vietnam.



Watery walkway

This shot by Viktor Lyagushkin of Georgia shows a group of tiny skeleton shrimp.

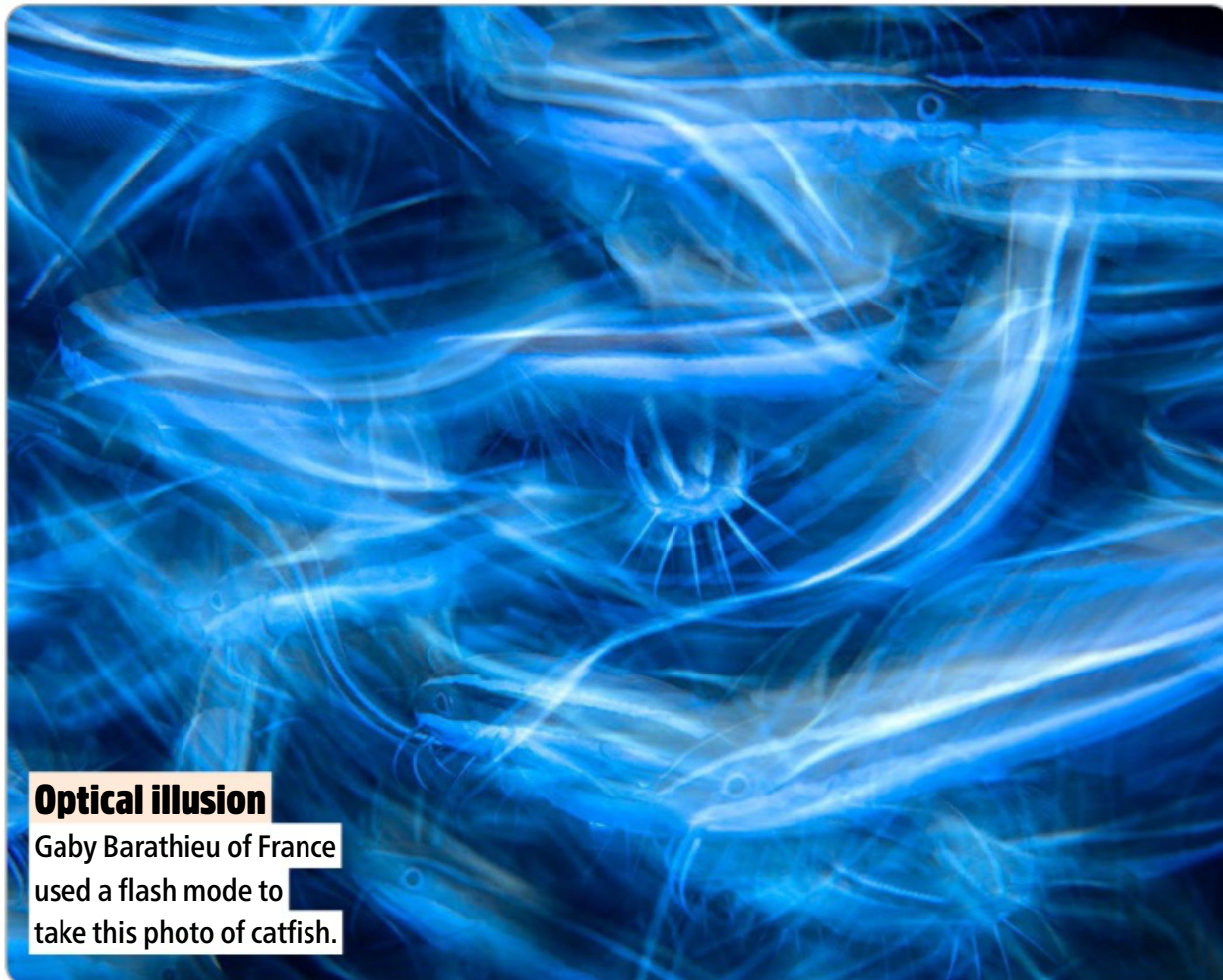


CAO NGUYEN VU; VIKTOR LYAGUSHKIN; JENNIFER JOHNSON; GABY BARATHIEU; RICK MORRIS; AUNK HORWANG



Peaceful scene

In Thailand, a manta ray swims with other creatures in this shot by Aunk Horwang.



Optical illusion

Gaby Barathieu of France used a flash mode to take this photo of catfish.



School's out

Fish swirl around an anemone in this photo by Jennifer Johnson of the US.



Colorful task

A scuba diver replants coral in this image by Rick Morris of the US.



Novak Djokovic

DID YOU KNOW?
Wimbledon is the oldest tennis tournament in the world.

Tournament dress code



Since the 1870s, Wimbledon players have been required to wear outfits that are almost entirely all white. Exceptions are made for a thin, single-color trim or a small logo. It is thought that the color not only keeps players cool but also makes their sweat less visible.

Players make history at Wimbledon

On July 10, the Wimbledon Championships concluded in London, England. It is one of the four most important international tennis tournaments, known as Grand Slams. Each year, it is held at the All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club.

In the women's singles final on July 9, Elena Rybakina, who was seeded (ranked) number 17, defeated number two seed Ons Jabeur, 3–6, 6–2, 6–2. One reason the matchup was significant was because neither player had ever made it to a Grand Slam final before. On top of that, Jabeur, who is from Tunisia, was the first Arab and first African woman to play in a Grand Slam final. Rybakina



Elena Rybakina

became the first player from Kazakhstan to win a Grand Slam singles title. At age 23, she is also the youngest Wimbledon champion since 2011.

Rybakina beat the odds to capture the title. The winner of the first set in the last 56 major women's tennis finals, going back to 2006, had become the champion. But Rybakina was able to come from behind and dominate the final two sets.

In the men's singles finals the next day, number one seed Novak Djokovic, from Serbia, defeated unranked Australian Nick Kyrgios, 4–6, 6–3, 6–4, 7–6 (7–3). The fourth set required a tie-break. Kyrgios got off to an impressive start in the match. Thanks to his strong serve, it took him only 30 minutes to

win the first set. Djokovic slowly got his groove, and both players were solid during the rest of the match. Djokovic's victory was his fourth Wimbledon championship title in a row and his 21st major tournament title overall.

That same day, in the men's wheelchair singles tournament, Japan's Shingo Kunieda, the number one seed, defeated British player Alfie Hewitt, the number two seed, 4–6, 7–5, 7–6 (10–5). The third set required a tie-break. Kunieda is considered the greatest men's wheelchair player in history, but he had never won Wimbledon. It is the only major tournament played on grass courts, and he has said that it takes "three times more power" to push a wheelchair on that surface. Now Kunieda has 28 Grand Slam singles titles. No other men's wheelchair player has won more than five.

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS...

INTERNATIONAL SOCCER

After defeating Jamaica, 5–0, in a Concacaf W Championship group stage match on July 7, the US Women's National Team (USWNT) earned a place in the 2023 Women's World Cup. The Americans are the two-time defending World Cup champions. Portland Thorns player Sophia Smith scored twice for the US in the win. In the team's final group stage match on July 11, they beat host country Mexico, 1–0.



The USWNT

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

After losing the first two games of a four-game series, the Boston Red Sox had back-to-back wins against the New York Yankees, the American League leaders and their biggest rival. In the game on July 10, Boston won 11–6 and had three home runs.

INTERNATIONAL LACROSSE

On July 9, the US Women's Lacrosse Team defeated Canada, 11–8, to win the World Lacrosse Women's Championship in Towson, Maryland.



LEAGUE NEWS

The WNBA's 2023 regular season will have 40 games, the most ever.



Kelsey Plum

Exciting WNBA All-Star Weekend

The Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) All-Star Weekend took place in Chicago, Illinois, on July 9 and July 10. The events included a game and skill-based competitions.

The All-Star game was held on July 10 at Wintrust Arena. The starters were players who had been selected through voting by fans, players, and the media. Reserve players were chosen by coaches. A'ja Wilson of the Las Vegas Aces and Breanna Stewart of the Seattle Storm received the most fan votes, so they were the team captains. Retiring WNBA stars Sue Bird of the Seattle Storm and Sylvia Fowles of the Minnesota Lynx were co-captains. Team Wilson won the game, 134–112.

Fowles, who played on Team Wilson, had a memorable day. She scored the first points in the game with a three-pointer. It was only the second time she had attempted and made one during

her 15 seasons in the WNBA. She later thrilled the crowd with a breakaway dunk, also the second of her career. The game's Most Valuable Player was Kelsey Plum of the Las Vegas Aces, who scored 30 points for Team Wilson.

The day before, the Chicago Sky's Allie Quigley won the 3-Point Contest for the fourth time. She is the only WNBA or National Basketball Association player who has won so many. In the Skills Challenge, WNBA stars were paired with top high school players in an obstacle course relay. Sabrina Ionescu of the New York Liberty won with Zoe Brooks, who will play at North Carolina State University.

Ionescu was already having a big week. In a game on July 6, she had a triple double (double digits in points, rebounds, and assists). It was the third one of her career and ties her for the most triple doubles in WNBA history.



COACH OF THE WEEK

Coach's Name: **Reed Tennyson**

Team: **Dillingham Cubs (wrestling)**

"Coach Reed is awesome, nice, and really good at wrestling. During practice he teaches us wrestling moves and teaches them in a way so we remember them easily. He is funny and fun and jokes around a lot but also teaches us to have a good attitude, push ourselves, and work hard. He teaches our team that it's important to be good people." Jens and Gus, 13, Alaska



To nominate a Coach of the Week, send your coach's name, photo, sport, and team to hello@theweekjunior.com. Include your name, age, state, and a few reasons why your coach is great.



5 books about the big world of sports

From baseball to surfing, these picks pack in fun facts about top sports.

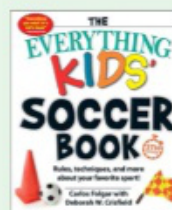


The World of Adventure Sports

By Emma Carlson Berne, illustrated by Ian Jepson

(Lonely Planet Kids)

Find out about snowboarding, surfing, rock climbing, and more. The glossary of terms, history facts, and athlete interviews help bring each sport to life. Ages 9–12



The Everything Kids' Soccer Book

By Carlos Folgar and Deborah W. Crisfield

(Everything)

The dribbling tips and passing strategies in this book may help you improve your own soccer skills. A word search, crossword, and other puzzles are also included. Ages 8–12

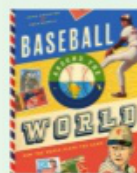


The Story of the Olympic Games

By the Olympic Museum

(Welbeck Books)

This book dives into the history, top wins, and amazing facts about the summer and winter Olympic Games that have been held around the world since 1896. Ages 10 and up



Baseball Around the World

By Chris Singleton and Dean Burrell (Bushel & Peck Books)

Baseball isn't just a US sport. Discover how it arrived in other countries, such as Japan. Instead of hot dogs, spectators there enjoy fried dough filled with octopus. Ages 8 and up



Unsinkable

By Jessica Long with Hannah Long (Clarion Books)

Paralympic gold medalist Jessica Long writes about the obstacles she overcame to swim competitively after her legs were amputated when she was a child. The book includes many of her photos. Ages 10 and up



WOW!

In 2021, there were more than 297 million visits to national parks in the US.



American bison in *America the Beautiful*

A fresh look at North America

This documentary series from the producers of *Planet Earth* uses new technology to explore the continent's landscapes and wildlife.

North America is one of the most diverse continents on Earth, and the new National Geographic documentary series *America the Beautiful* is delivering a unique look at its impressive landscapes and wildlife. The show is produced by Vanessa Berlowitz and Mark Linfield, who made the hit series *Planet Earth*. Their goal was to create something viewers had not seen before. All six episodes of the series are now streaming on Disney+.

Part of what makes *America the Beautiful* so special is that the

overhead footage in the series was captured by camera systems attached to the noses of fighter jets. The aircrafts were capable of flying more than 350 miles per hour at an altitude of more than 41,000 feet. Greg Wilson, the show's aerial cinematographer (person in charge of cameras and lighting), told *The Week Junior* the perspective from the sky helps viewers see how ecosystems (groups of plants or animals in a certain place that affect one another) "bump up against one another."

On the ground, the production team relied on remote cameras that were

activated by the animals they were filming. "We were able to get really unusual kinds of behavior," Linfield told *The Week Junior*. One of the most unexpected moments involved a squirrel taking on a bear. "If people had been there, we would never have captured it," Berlowitz said.

Each episode of the series focuses on a region of the continent or a theme, such as heroes. Actor Michael B. Jordan (*Black Panther*) is the narrator. "He's passionate about nature and bringing it to broader audiences," Berlowitz said. Linfield hopes the series inspires young viewers to go outside and visit national parks. "You'll see amazing stuff that you probably don't know is there," he said.



Michael B. Jordan

3 North American animals

Alligator

They live in swamps in the southeastern US. Research shows the animals have existed for at least 8 million years and may be among the oldest living species in the world.



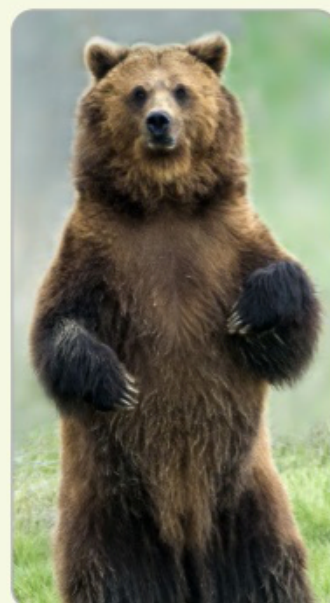
Dolphin

There are more dolphins per square mile in the US than anywhere else in the world. Southern California alone is home to about 450,000 common dolphins. There are two species: short-beaked and long-beaked.



Grizzly bear

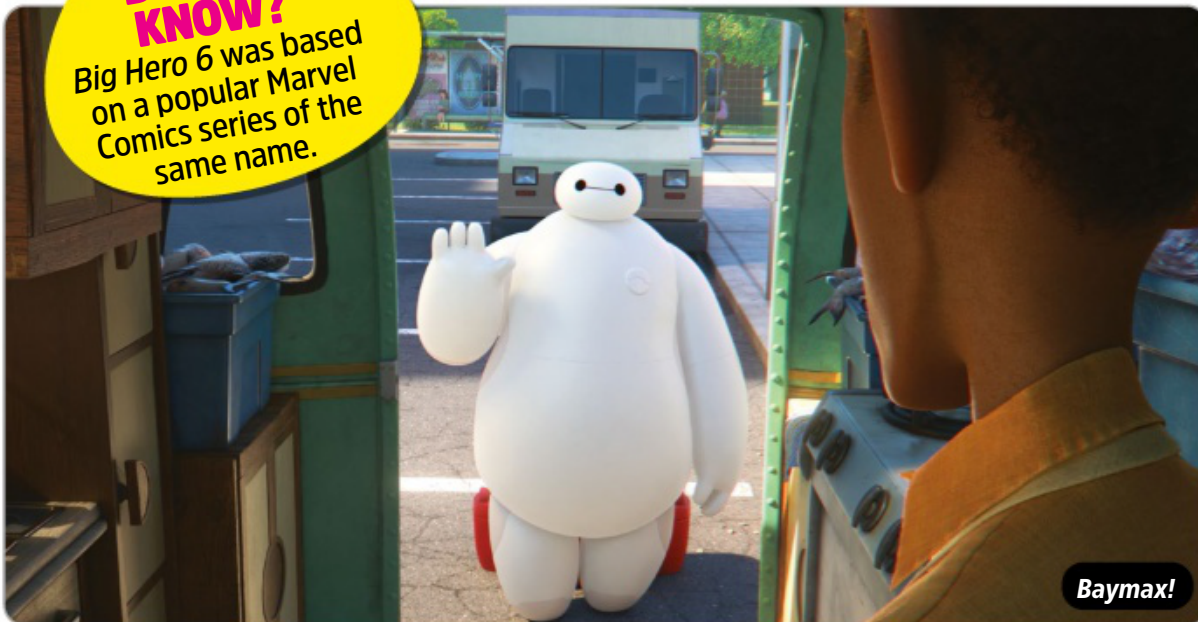
These giants, a subspecies of the North American brown bear, can weigh up to 800 pounds. They once made the western half of the US their home but now live mostly in Canada and Alaska.





DID YOU KNOW?

Big Hero 6 was based on a popular Marvel Comics series of the same name.



Baymax!

Beloved robot stars in series

Baymax—the lovable healthcare companion robot from the 2014 hit animated film *Big Hero 6*—is starring in a new series of animated shorts. *Baymax!* is about the importance of caring for others. It is now streaming on Disney+.

Big Hero 6 was about teen genius Hiro Hamada, whose brother created Baymax to treat people's medical needs. He can detect vital signs, diagnose conditions, assess pain, and treat nearly any illness or injury. Just like the film and its TV spin-off, *Big Hero 6: The Series*, the shorts are set mainly in the futuristic city of San Fransokyo.

Baymax was a traditional superhero in *Big Hero 6*, but his character in *Baymax!* is more

grounded in real life. Series creator Don Hall was inspired by shows about kind doctors healing their patients. Producer Roy Conli said that “every episode is dedicated to our healthcare heroes.”

Scott Adsit, the actor who always voices Baymax, told *The Week Junior* he thinks fans love the character because he is so caring. “He’s got the programming we’re all meant to have,” Adsit said. “When we relate to him, we’re relating to the best parts of ourselves.” He added that the shorts may encourage viewers to be more like Baymax. “I want people to walk away saying, ‘I can be aware enough to notice when someone needs help and give them a little.’”



MY FAVORITE BOOKS

Dylan Dreyer, 3rd Hour of *Today* co-host and NBC News meteorologist, shares her thoughts on the magic of books and the titles she enjoyed reading when she was growing up.



Dylan Dreyer

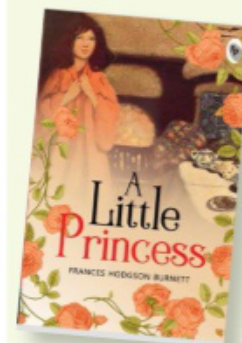
The magic of reading can be different for everyone. I notice this with my own children. My oldest uses his imagination to put himself into the story. My toddler loves to ask questions about the books I read to him, and my baby flails his arms when I read to him. He is excited but doesn’t quite know why! They all love the comfort and familiarity of reading.

When I was growing up, my favorite books were *The Secret Garden*, *A Little Princess*, and *The Chronicles of Narnia* series. I read *A Secret Garden* when my friend and I loved to create

hideaways. We would make secret areas where we’d have our club—it was our thing and no one else knew about it. *The Secret Garden* captured that essence.

I loved *A Little Princess* because it was the first time

I read a book where the story takes a wild turn to reveal a hidden secret that you didn’t see coming. I was obsessed with *The Chronicles of Narnia* because I loved fantastical stories. I liked imagining wild things happening with magic, mystery, and hidden worlds. I reread the series as an adult, and it made me realize how mature the writing was as well. I think it gave me a love of words that I might not have had otherwise.



For more book ideas, get our list of 50 books at theweekjunior.com/summerofreading.



MOVIE NIGHT

For our Summer of Reading program, we’re selecting a film based on a popular book.

A Wrinkle in Time (2018)

Disney+

PG

Based on Madeleine L’Engle’s award-winning 1962 sci-fi novel of the same name, this film follows Meg, a bright 13-year-old with a natural talent for physics. She lives with her mother and adopted brother, Charles Wallace. Meg is struggling with the absence of her father, a scientist who disappeared four years ago. She is bullied at school but has found a friend in a boy named Calvin. One day, Meg meets supernatural beings Mrs. Whatsit, Mrs. Who, and Mrs. Which, who reveal that her father is still alive. The three take Meg, Charles Wallace, and Calvin on a trip through space and time to find him. They discover he’s being held on a planet that is spreading an evil energy through the universe. Can the kids overcome the dark forces and reunite Meg’s family?





On screen

WOW!

In 2018, a world record was set for the largest cup of hot tea. It contained more than 1,300 gallons of the beverage.

Cuphead: The Delicious Last Course

New Cuphead adventure

New downloadable content (DLC) for the hit platform game Cuphead has been released. Cuphead: The Delicious Last Course is now available on the Xbox One, Nintendo Switch, PlayStation 4, and PC.

The original Cuphead game was released in 2017. It revolves around brothers Cuphead and Mugman, who live on Inkwell Isle. The pair lose a bet with the Devil, so they have to work for him, but the game is funny, not scary. It is designed in the style of a cartoon from the 1930s and even inspired an animated series on Netflix. As the game progresses, the brothers are reminded to do the right thing by their guardian, Elder Kettle. He gives them good advice so they are able to defeat their scheming boss, which frees them from his control.



Ms. Chalice

In The Delicious Last Course, Cuphead and Mugman team up with a new playable character. She begins as the ghost Legendary Chalice, but a magic cookie turns her into Ms. Chalice, a living being. Mugman becomes a ghost instead. Ms. Chalice has moves that come in handy as the three characters take on new bosses such as Mortimer Freeze. For Ms. Chalice to remain in her form, a character named Chef Saltbaker says she must eat a Wondertart. That sends the brothers and Ms. Chalice on a quest across new levels and islands to collect the ingredients for it.

For existing Cuphead fans, the DLC offers the same type of fun and action they love. One perk for newcomers is getting to play the DLC alongside the original game and having Ms. Chalice available as a playable character from the very beginning.



PODCAST OF THE WEEK

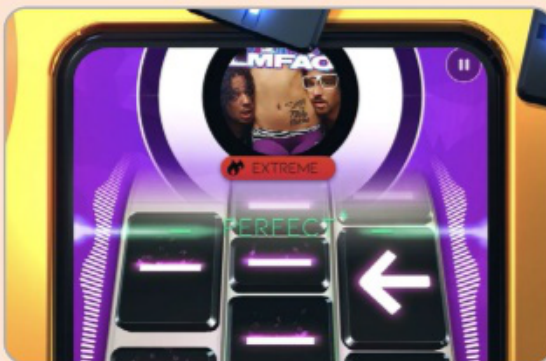
MIJA

Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Audible

A daughter ("mija" in Spanish) of immigrants tells stories about her family in this award-winning fictional series. Season one was about Colombian immigrants in New York City, season two featured Chinese immigrants in Paris, and season three followed an Egyptian family on the move.



APP OF THE WEEK



BEATSTAR

Apple App Store, Google Play

To play this mobile music game, you have to tap moving tiles to the beat of songs. You can choose tunes by popular artists, including Billie Eilish, The Weeknd, and Ariana Grande, or discover new songs to try. If your friends play the game, you'll be able to compare scores online.



PLAYLIST OF THE WEEK

CORPSE TALK

tinyurl.com/TWJUS-CorpseTalk

Historical figures come back to life in this series on YouTube's Cartoons for Kids channel. It's based on popular graphic novels by Adam Murphy. He appears in animated form and chats with guests such as ancient Egyptian queen Cleopatra and 18th-century composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.





BOOK OF THE WEEK

Mr. Lemoncello's Very First Game

By Chris Grabenstein

(Random House Books for Young Readers)

This story, a prequel to the Mr. Lemoncello's Library series, takes place when the main character, Luigi, is 13 years old. One of 10 kids in his family, Luigi makes up games to play with his siblings and friends on summer break. When bullies rip up one of his games, Luigi's friends try to cheer him up by taking him to a carnival. They give him coins to play a game in which a puzzle is hidden behind balloons. Although Luigi pops only a few balloons, he solves the puzzle. The owner, Professor Marvelmous, is impressed with Luigi's puzzle-solving skills and hires him to work at the carnival. Luigi gives most of his earnings to his family. When the carnival ends, Professor Marvelmous leaves Luigi and his friends a puzzle box that sends them on a treasure hunt.

Will they be able to find the prize? This book contains many puzzles that you can try to solve along with Luigi. If you haven't read the series yet, this imaginative story is a good place to start. If you're already a fan of the series, you'll learn the origin of some of Mr. Lemoncello's distinctive features, including his top hat and banana shoes. Ages 8–12



ASK THE AUTHOR

If you're interested in writing a story but aren't sure where to begin, use this inspiration from Chris Grabenstein. He has written the first sentence of a story below. Now write what comes next. It can be anything! Sometimes it's easier to be creative when you have a jumping-off point. Have fun!

"First thing Monday morning, the cereal box started talking to me."

Our list of 50 Books Kids Love Most and details about entering our Summer of Reading sweepstakes can be found at theweekjunior.com/summerofreading. Happy reading!

Ask the Author: Chris Grabenstein

We spoke to Chris Grabenstein, who wrote this issue's Book of the Week. He is one of *The Week Junior's* Summer of Reading Author Ambassadors. He used to work as a comedian, and his books will make you laugh and think.



What kind of puzzles do you enjoy doing the most?

Just like Luigi in *Mr. Lemoncello's Very First Game*, I prefer rebus puzzles, a type that combines letters and pictures.

What's your favorite carnival food?



Funnel cake, but I wouldn't eat one before going on my favorite carnival ride, which is the Tilt-a-Whirl.

Do you have any starting words for Wordle?

"Audio" and "stern" are always my first and second words, so I get all five vowels and some of the most common consonants.

Was middle school hard for you?

I had a tough time because bullies picked on me. But I did develop a sense of humor to defend myself.

Do you have any pets?

Yes, we have two cats: Luigi and Phoebe Squeak. We used to have a 65-pound dog named Fred, and he was the inspiration for the book I wrote titled *Dog Squad*.



What kind of comedy did you do?

In my 20s, I did improv, which is when most or all of what you perform is made up on the spot when you're onstage.

How do you like to relax in the summer?



Sitting in a chair outside eating ice cream and getting lost in a book.





How to...

WOW!

The 26th US President, Theodore Roosevelt (1858–1919), was known to read a book a day, even while President.



5 books to read with your club

These titles are from our Summer of Reading list. See the full list at theweekjunior.com/summerofreading. Each story is guaranteed to spark lively discussions about the characters and the decisions they make.

The Magic Misfits

By Neil Patrick Harris, illustrated by Lissy Marlin and Kyle Hilton (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers)

A group of teenage magicians try to save a town from an evil carnival owner. Ages 8–12



Cece Rios and the Desert of Souls

By Kaela Rivera (HarperCollins)

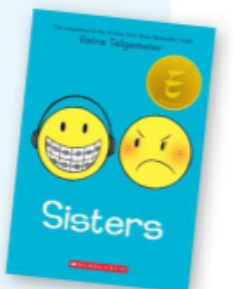
When her sister is kidnapped, Cece jumps into action to get her back. Ages 8–12



Sisters

By Raina Telgemeier (Graphix)

This graphic novel recounts the ups and downs of life with the author and her little sister. Ages 8–12

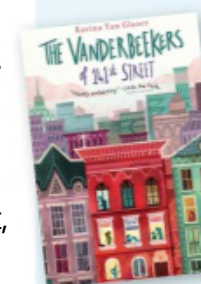


The Vanderbeekers

By Karina Yan Glaser (Clarion Books)

Five siblings try to change the mind of a landlord who doesn't want

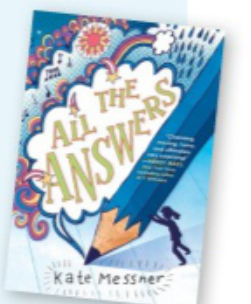
to renew their apartment's lease. Ages 8–12



All the Answers

By Kate Messner (Bloomsbury USA Children's)

Ava discovers a pencil that has the power to give her the right answers on her math quiz. Ages 8–12



Start a kids' book club

Get together with friends and talk about what you read.

Whether you enjoy fantasies, mysteries, fiction, or nonfiction, reading is fun and entertaining. You can enjoy the books you read even more if you start or join a book club. In a book club, a group of people choose to read the same book and then get together to discuss what they thought of it. Being part of a book club is a great way to discover new types of stories and meet others who enjoy reading, said Judy Gelman, author of *The Kid's Book Club Book*. Here's how to get started.

Create the basics

To start a book club, you will first want to think about how often you'll meet and where you'll get together. Many book clubs meet about once a month so people have time to read the book before they get together. You could plan to meet at a different member's house each month or gather at the library or a local park.

Invite friends

Eight to 10 kids is a good number of people for a book club because it's large enough to feel like a group but not so large that you can't all easily meet. It's helpful if

everyone is about the same age, which means you may be interested in reading similar books. A book club is a fun way to make new friends, so besides your good friends, consider inviting kids you don't know as well.

Consider a theme

One way to make a book club feel special is to give it a theme. Maybe your club is focused on reading new graphic novels or classic fantasy stories. Or you could aim to read about a specific type of character, such as middle schoolers. Having a theme can also make it easier to narrow down book options.

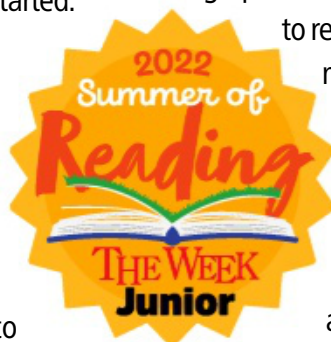
Choose the book

If you're the one forming the club, you could pick the book for the first meeting. After that, a different member could choose each month.

Or a member could bring three books to a meeting, describe them to the group, and let everyone vote. The box at right features books from our Summer of Reading list that are good picks for book clubs.

Come prepared

At each meeting, ask one person to bring a list of questions for the group to discuss. Questions can be about the specific book, or they could be broader questions that spark discussion. Two suggestions: If you could give the book a different ending, what would it be? If you wrote a sequel, what would happen next?



Have you started a book club?

If so, write to us about your experience and include a photo if you'd like. We might publish your submission in a future issue. Email us at hello@theweekjunior.com.



LEARN THE RULES OF CAPTURE THE FLAG

This classic outdoor game is a fun summer activity to do with friends or neighbors. Here's how to play.

- 1. Get set up.** Gather a group of eight or more players, then split into two equal teams. Give each team a brightly colored flag. Choose an area to play in, such as a backyard or a field in a park, with each team getting half of the area. Each team should also specify a "time-out" area on their side for players who have been tagged.
- 2. Start playing.** Give each team five minutes to hide their flag on their side of the field. Once the game starts, some players can try to find the other team's flag, while others can be in charge of guarding your team's flag. If you get tagged while on the other team's side, you have to go to "time-out" until another member of your team tags you.
- 3. Claim victory.** To win, a team must grab the opposing team's flag and make it back to their side of the field without being tagged.



WARNING!

Ask an adult's permission before using a knife and a blender.

Blend up a sweet slushie

Ingredients

- 1½ cups strawberries
- 2 lemons
- 3 tablespoons fine sugar
- 2 cups ice

Instructions

1. Carefully use a knife to trim the strawberries, cutting off the green tops. Then cut each strawberry in half (or into four pieces if they are large strawberries). Place the strawberries into a blender.
2. Use a peeler to cut a 1-by-3-inch piece of lemon zest off the bright yellow rind of one lemon. Cut both lemons in half.
3. Squeeze the juice from three of the lemon halves into a small bowl. Measure out ¼ cup of the lemon juice and pour it into the blender. Add the strip of lemon zest to the blender.
4. Add the sugar and ice to the blender. Cover and puree until the mixture is fully blended.
5. Evenly divide the slushie between two glasses. Cut 2 slices from the remaining lemon half. Cut a small slit into the edge of each lemon slice and add one to the rim of each glass. Enjoy immediately.

Helpful tip

- To get as much juice as you can from a lemon, first roll it on the counter, gently pushing it down. Then cut in half and squeeze out the juice.



ECO TIP OF THE WEEK BE AN ECO-FRIENDLY PET OWNER

If your family has a pet, you can take steps to care for it in a way that helps the environment. Each time you pick up your dog's waste when out on a walk, for example, you are helping the Earth. That's because waste left behind can pollute streams or lakes if it gets washed away during a rainstorm. When choosing waste bags, reuse bags you have at home or ask an adult if you can purchase biodegradable ones. When buying cat litter, shop for a biodegradable type, which is more eco-friendly than litter made of clay. If you are bringing a pet home soon, ask friends if they have items they no longer need (such as a leash, a fish tank, or a dog bed) so you won't have to buy new ones.



Help the Earth while helping your pet.



Keyword crossword

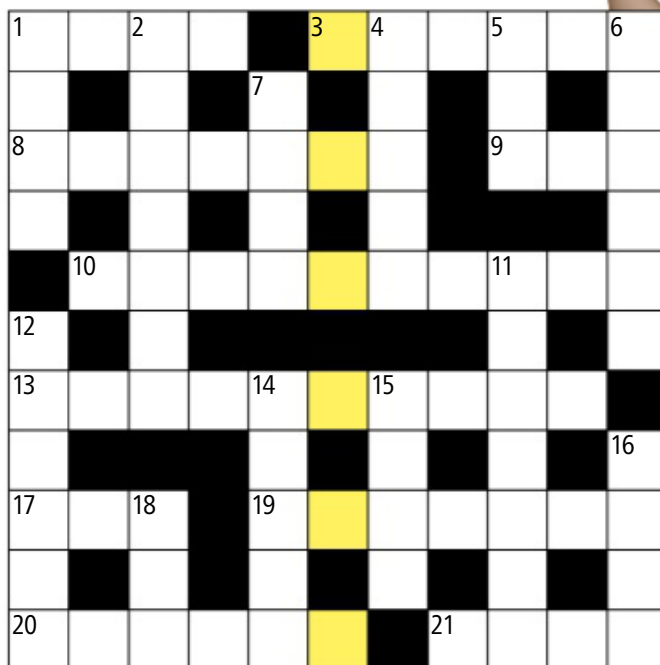
Once you have completed the crossword, transfer the letters in the yellow boxes, in order, into the boxes below to get the answer to the Keyword question.

ACROSS

- 1 Beanstalk-growing boy in a fairy tale
- 3 Necessities in table settings
- 8 In a depiction of an atom, this is what the dot in the center represents
- 9 Bird that hunts at night
- 10 Rudely butts in
- 13 Like a watch you can wear while scuba diving
- 17 It's often the vocal part of hip-hop music
- 19 Dense ice sheet (which is constantly, though slowly, moving)
- 20 Part of the US Congress, along with the House
- 21 Word called out by a clerk when finishing with one customer

DOWN

- 1 Broken appliances, rusted cars, and other stuff nobody wants
- 2 Fruit that falls out of a palm tree
- 4 ___ tag (sport using beams of infrared light)
- 5 Number assigned to the second item in a list
- 6 Result of someone doing a cannonball off a diving board
- 7 You might say this when attendance is taken
- 11 Give your word
- 12 The lightsabers in *Star Wars* are sci-fi versions of these traditional weapons
- 14 The hand that about 90% of people use to hold a pencil
- 15 Pathway through town
- 16 A medium-fast pace for a horse
- 18 Each club-shaped item at one end of a bowling lane



Keyword question: Which color dye, originally made using the secretions of a kind of snail, was so rare and expensive that it became associated with royalty?



CODE CRACKER

In this coded list of insects, every letter has been replaced with a substitute. The same substitutions are used throughout the list. Hint: Every X here is an uncoded E. Use the letter patterns you find to crack the code. (NEED ANOTHER HINT? Check the bottom of the page.)

G N O G Z X G X X

Z E Y W G N B

G N I I X Q L Z W



ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 29.

THREE FOR ALL

Sort this list into three familiar three-part phrases, like THREE-RING CIRCUS or SALT LAKE CITY.

MILK SLOW CHAIN LOW FOOD
REPLAY FAST FAT MOTION

Cutting room

Divide this grid into five sections so each section consists of five adjacent boxes containing the numbers 1–5. The sections may have different shapes.

2	5	3	1	1
4	3	2	5	2
5	4	4	3	1
3	1	4	2	4
1	2	5	3	5

Spot the difference

These two pictures of Cape Town, South Africa, appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are actually five differences. Can you see them?





**A kangaroo
flew the coop.**

Jailbreak at the bird rescue

On June 29, residents of East Baton Rouge, Louisiana, were astounded to see a kangaroo hopping around town. The marsupial, named Baxter, belonged to former zoo owners who now run a rescue center for wild birds. A clever parrot named Thor had figured out how to open the door to Baxter's enclosure and set him free. Authorities lured the kangaroo with peanut butter and brought him safely home to rejoin his feathered friends.

Now he knows his ABC's

An Oregon man won a Guinness World Records title for the fastest time putting the letters in a can of alphabet soup in the correct order, A through Z. His time was 2 minutes and 8.6 seconds. Jacob Chandler practiced extensively with a bowl and spoon and had to work hard to tell the difference between letters like "M" and "W." Chandler said that the goal of his attempt was to inspire his 11-year-old son to achieve his dreams.



**"R" for record,
"S" for soup...**



**A soaked phone
lived again.**

Wet phone still works

A lost iPhone was returned in a pretty spectacular way. The phone fell out of Owain Davies's pocket and into the Wye River in Scotland. Ten months later, a man who was canoeing with his family found it underwater, dried it out, charged it—and discovered it still worked. The picture on the screen helped the man find its owner. "I just couldn't believe it," Davies said.

**Real OR
fake?**

**Are these
ice pops a hot
commodity?**



Ketchup pop is summer sensation

Oh, Canada! A new kind of frozen popsicle has arrived, and the nation to the north can't get enough of it. The ketchup-flavored "Frenchsicle"—produced by French's, the condiment company—became an instant hit, flying off shelves and causing its limited release to be extended. And it was all for a good cause. With each Frenchsicle sold, two meals were donated to a food bank to feed people in need. Is this story true, or is there a "ketch"?*



The friendly spud

Pete the potato poses for the camera

A woman in Colorado has kept a potato for five years because it looks so "friendly." In 2017, Lori Bricks noticed that the potato seemed to have a face with eyes and a smiling mouth. Rather than eating it, she decided to keep it in her freezer. She and her husband named the spud Pete and have taken photos of it in various poses, such as sitting on a chair and watching TV.

*Fake! The Frenchsicle is real, but the tomato-based treat was not popular and remained a free, limited-edition giveaway. "Yuck," social media posts said. French's still supported food banks while giving the pops away.



Your turn

Editor's note

There is something very special about reading during the summer. The days are long, the weather in many parts of the country is perfect for reading outdoors, and it's so enjoyable to get lost in a good story during a vacation. Have you read any amazing books so far this summer? Maybe you've found some great suggestions on our Summer of Reading list of "50 Books Kids Love Most," available at theweekjunior.com/summerofreading. If you're looking for more ideas, turn to pages 11, 15, 19, 21, and 23 in this issue. And check out our tips for starting a book club with friends (p24). If you haven't entered our Summer of Reading sweepstakes yet, we hope you will! You could win autographed books plus a video call with a children's author. The details are listed at the web address above, and the entry deadline is August 19.

Andrea Barbalich
Editor-in-Chief



Ethan, 11, California

A passion for kids' literacy

“I’m a kid book reviewer, podcaster, and literacy advocate. I started reading when I was 2½ and haven’t stopped. I want to do everything I can to inspire other kids to love reading as much as I do! My book journey took me on an exciting new path a few months ago. I’m now thrilled to be reading, reviewing, and interviewing middle grade authors on my podcast, called E Train Talks. My name is Ethan, but I go by E Train in my

podcast. In just the last month, I’ve spoken virtually to classes across the country about my book journey, and I’ve even been invited to participate on a national literacy advocacy kid panel talking about what I do to promote literacy! I feel like I’m starting to make a difference, and I want to continue doing whatever I can to get other kids excited to read!”

Have you done something interesting or raised money for a cause you care about? Whatever you're up to, we want to hear about it at hello@theweekjunior.com.

JOKE OF THE WEEK
Why is it a bad idea to write a book on crows?
The ink is hard to read against their feathers.

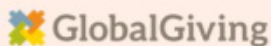


CHARITY OF THE WEEK



Global Giving

This organization helps fund smaller, community-led groups in more than 175 countries. It is currently funding relief efforts in Afghanistan after a severe earthquake struck the country on June 22. The money Global Giving raises will go toward providing emergency assistance, including food, water, medicine, and shelter, to people who lost their homes. Find out more at globalgiving.org.



Show support for Ukraine

People around the world are continuing to call for an end to the war in Ukraine. If you would like to express a wish for peace, go to theweekjunior.com/ukraine with an adult to print out our poster template. Add a drawing or a message and display it in your window or on your front door. To share your poster with us, ask an adult to take a photo of it and send it to hello@theweekjunior.com. An adult can also share it on social media using #StandWithUkraine and tag us at @theweekjuniorus.



THE WEEK
Junior

IT'S YOUR TURN

Email your news, views, and photos to hello@theweekjunior.com.

Your turn



YOUR PHOTOS

We'd love to see pictures you've taken or pictures with you in them! Send them to us at hello@theweekjunior.com, along with anything you'd like to tell us about what's in the photo.



"I made a model of an eco-friendly house design! I made it out of recycled materials too!" **Josephine, 9, New York**

"I always bring a few copies of *The Week Junior* when I fly to see Grandma and Grandpa!" **Ethan, 9, Maryland**



"I love reading *The Week Junior*. Inspired by the How To section, I made this Father's Day card for my dad. I always eagerly wait for the magazine every week." **Anushka, 10, Ohio**

POPJAM

Sign up and follow @theweekjunior on PopJam, a social media platform for kids 7-12. Ask an adult to download the app from iTunes or Google Play.

We asked: What is your favorite food at a summer barbecue and why?

"Hamburgers and hot dogs because they taste good"

"I don't enjoy meat, so I like the veggies! Corn and potatoes!"

"I have to say that ribs are amazing! My dad grills them himself!"

In the big debate, we asked which ice cream flavor is better: chocolate or vanilla?

"Chocolate because you can add in other yummy flavors, like peanut butter."

"Vanilla. It's so simple and you can have it with any topping."

"Chocolate! If you don't want any toppings, you still get a good flavor!"

"Chocolate is good, but vanilla is the original."

Now tell us: Would you rather swim in a pool or the ocean, and why?

Teacher OF THE WEEK



Teacher's Name: **Ms. Burton**

School: **Charter Oak International Academy**

"Third grade has been very challenging with Covid and other stressors, but Ms. Burton has always kept the classroom calm. She helps me feel relaxed and ready for anything. I didn't really like writing in the beginning of the year, but now I find it fun. She has helped me improve my growth mindset. In conclusion, Ms. Burton is the best third grade teacher ever."

Leo, 9, Connecticut

Nominate your teacher for Teacher of the Week! Send your reason for the nomination, a photo of your teacher, and your school's name and address to hello@theweekjunior.com.



Puzzle answers (from page 26)

2	5	3	1	1
4	3	2	5	2
5	4	4	3	1
3	1	4	2	4
1	2	5	3	5

Keyword answer
purple

Code cracker
bumblebee
ladybug
butterfly

Three for all
slow-motion replay
low-fat milk
fast-food chain

J	A	C	K		P	L	A	T	E	S
U		O		H		A		W		P
N	U	C	L	E	U	S		O	W	L
K		O		R		E				A
S	I	N	T	E	R	R	U	P	T	S
W	A	T	E	R		P	R	O	O	F
O						I	O	M		T
R	A	P				G	L	A	C	I
D		I		H		D		S		O
S	E	N	A	T	E		N	E	X	T



Quiz answers (from page 30)

1 b) San Fransokyo 2 True 3 Los Alamos County, New Mexico 4 b) \$125.2 million
5 False. He is hired to work at a carnival. 6 Pterosaur 7 b) 1994 8 True
9 Red junglefowl 10 c) 28 11 False. He has co-written four. 12 c) Zoo Miami
13 A wontertart 14 True 15 b) Kangaroo

We want to hear from you! To have your letters, photos, nominations, recommendations, or ideas considered for inclusion in the magazine, please include your full name, age, and state with your submission. By emailing your submission to us, you give *The Week Junior* consent to publish it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian's permission before sending anything to us.



Quiz of the week

How much of this week's news can you remember?

1 The new Disney+ series *Baymax!* is set in what futuristic city?

- a) Neo York City b) San Fransokyo
c) Tokyisko

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

2 True or false? Gymnast Simone Biles is the youngest person ever to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

True ☐ False ☐

3 Which community has been named the healthiest in the US for the third year in a row?

4 How much money did the movie *Minions: The Rise of Gru* make in its opening weekend?

- a) \$115.9 million b) \$125.2 million
c) \$140 million

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

5 True or false? In the book *Mr. Lemoncello's Very First Game*, the main character, Luigi, is hired to work at a library.

True ☐ False ☐

6 What was the world's first flying animal with a backbone?

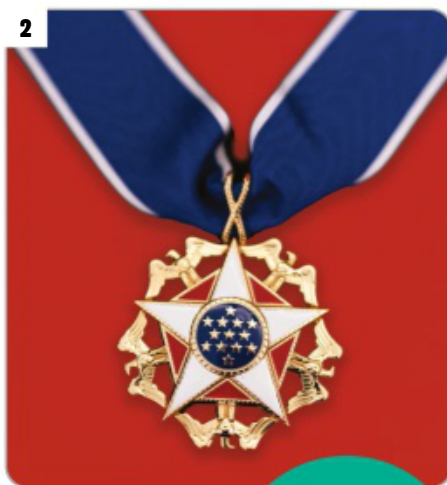
7 In what year was Nelson Mandela elected president of South Africa?

- a) 1990 b) 1994 c) 1999

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

8 True or false? Alligators have existed for at least 8 million years.

True ☐ False ☐



9 Modern chickens most likely descended from what colorful bird in Thailand?

10 How many Grand Slam titles has wheelchair tennis player Shingo Kunieda won?

- a) 21 b) 24 c) 28

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

11 True or false? Henry Winkler has co-written two book series for kids.

True ☐ False ☐

12 A hospital for sick and injured sea turtles is opening at which zoo?

- a) Florida Aquarium

- b) Naples Zoo

- c) Zoo Miami

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

13 In the new content for the game *Cuphead*, the characters must gather ingredients for what type of food?

14 True or false? The part of the ocean that gets no light is known as the midnight zone.

True ☐ False ☐

15 A clever parrot released what animal from its enclosure in East Baton Rouge, Louisiana?

- a) Giraffe

- b) Kangaroo

- c) Zebra

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

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Senior editors: Gail O'Connor, Jennifer Li Shotz
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Consumer marketing director: Leslie Guarnieri
Head of growth marketing: Colleen Ho
Group publisher: Paul Vizza (paul.vizza@futurenet.com)
Account director: Mary Gallagher (mary.gallagher@futurenet.com)
US manufacturing and distribution manager: Lori Crook

Reader submissions: hello@theweekjunior.com
Customer service: TWJcustserv@cdfsfulfillment.com
Editorial news: news@theweekjunior.com
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Inspire a love of reading

The BEST
READING GIFT
for curious
kids



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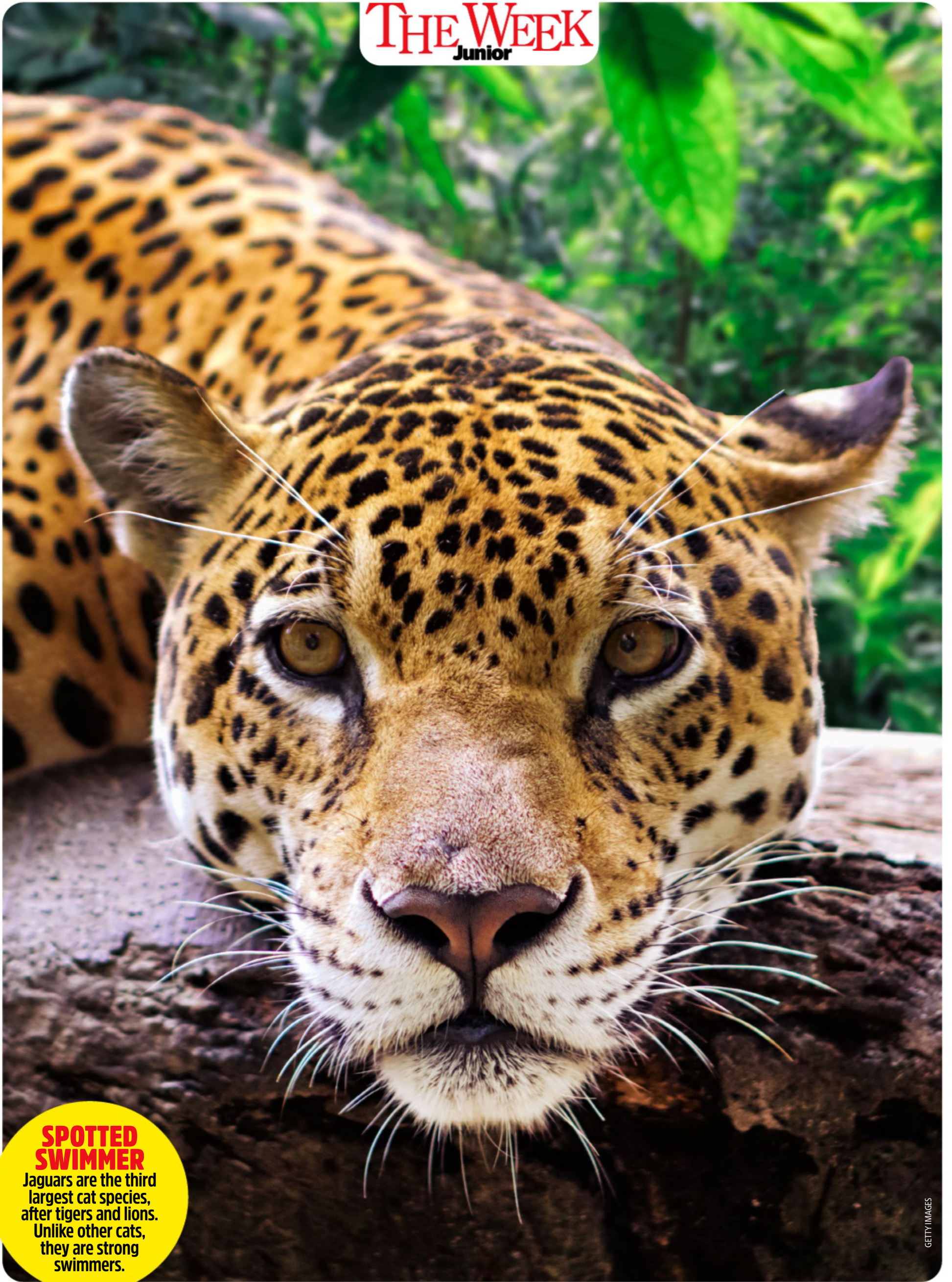
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